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International application number: PCT/EP05/000815

International filing date: 04 January 2005 (04.01.2005)

Document type: Certified copy of priority document

Document details: Country/Office: US
Number: 60/538,563
Filing date: 23 January 2004 (23.01.2004)

Date of receipt at the International Bureau: 12 April 2005 (12.04.2005)

Remark: Priority document submitted or transmitted to the International Bureau in compliance with Rule 17.1(a) or (b)



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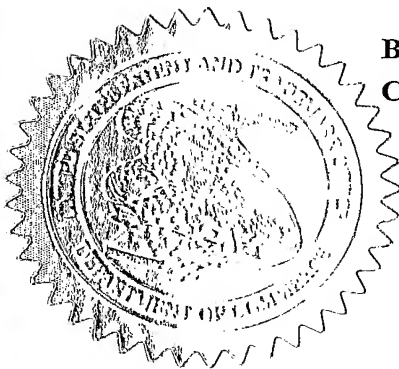
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FILING DATE: *January 23, 2004*



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PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT COVER SHEET

This is a request for filing a PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT under 37 CFR 1.53 (c).

Express Mail Label no. EL 995078767US

INVENTOR(S)					
Given Name (first and middle [if any])		Family Name or Surname		Residence (City and either State or Foreign Country)	
Mauro Alcide		Vasella		Zurich, Switzerland	
<input type="checkbox"/> Additional inventors are being named on the _____ separately numbered sheets attached hereto					
TITLE OF THE INVENTION (500 characters max)					
SELECTABLE AUDIO OUTPUT CONFIGURATION					
Direct all correspondence to: CORRESPONDENCE ADDRESS					
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OR					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Firm or Individual Name		JOSEPH S. TRIPOLI, THOMSON LICENSING INC.			
Address		PATENT OPERATIONS			
Address		P. O. BOX 5312			
City		PRINCETON	State	NJ	ZIP 08543-5312
Country		USA	Telephone	609 - 734-6834	Fax 609 - 734-6888
ENCLOSED APPLICATION PARTS (check all that apply)					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Specification Number of Pages		7		<input type="checkbox"/> CD(s), Number _____	
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Drawing(s) Number of Sheets		1		<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify) _____	
<input type="checkbox"/> Application Data Sheet. See 37 CFR 1.76					
METHOD OF PAYMENT OF FILING FEES FOR THIS PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT					
<input type="checkbox"/> Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27.					
<input type="checkbox"/> A check or money order is enclosed to cover the filing fees					
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> The Director is hereby authorized to charge filing fees or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account Number: 07-0832					
<input type="checkbox"/> Payment by credit card. Form PTO-2038 is attached.					
FILING FEE AMOUNT (\$) 160					
The invention was made by an agency of the United States Government or under a contract with an agency of the United States Government.					
<input type="checkbox"/> No.					
<input type="checkbox"/> Yes, the name of the U.S. Government agency and the Government contract number are: _____					

[Page 1 of 2]

Respectfully submitted,
SIGNATURE

Date

1/23/04

TYPED or PRINTED NAME

Reitseng Lin

REGISTRATION NO.
(if appropriate)

42,804

TELEPHONE

609-734-6813

Docket Number:

PU040017

USE ONLY FOR FILING A PROVISIONAL APPLICATION FOR PATENT

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.51. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 8 hours to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop Provisional Application, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

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FEE TRANSMITTAL for FY 2004

Effective 10/01/2003. Patent fees are subject to annual revision.

☐ Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT (\$) 160

Complete If Known

Application Number

Filing Date

First Named Inventor

Mauro Alcide Vasella

Examiner Name

Art Unit

Attorney Docket No.

PU040017

METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)

☐ Check ☐ Credit card ☐ Money Order ☐ Other ☐ None

☒ Deposit Account:

Deposit
Account
Number

07-0932

Deposit
Account
Name

THOMSON LICENSING INC.

The Director is authorized to: (check all that apply)

☒ Charge fee(s) indicated below ☒ Credit any overpayments
☐ Charge any additional fee(s) during the pendency of this application
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FEE CALCULATION

1. BASIC FILING FEE

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1001	770	2001	385	Utility filing fee
1002	340	2002	170	Design filing fee
1003	530	2003	265	Plant filing fee
1004	770	2004	385	Reissue filing fee
1005	160	2005	80	Provisional filing fee

Fee Paid
160

SUBTOTAL (1)

(\$ 160)

2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES FOR UTILITY AND REISSUE

Total Claims	Extra Claims	Fee from below	Fee Paid
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0
0	0	0	0

Large Entity Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description
1202	18	2202	9	Claims in excess of 20
1201	86	2201	43	Independent claims in excess of 3
1203	290	2203	145	Multiple dependent claim, if not paid
1204	86	2204	43	** Reissue independent claims over original patent
1205	18	2205	9	** Reissue claims in excess of 20 and over original patent

SUBTOTAL (2)

(\$ 0)

**or number previously paid, if greater; For Reissues, see above

FEE CALCULATION (continued)

Large Entity

Small Entity

Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Code	Fee (\$)	Fee Description	Fee Paid
1051	130	2051	65	Surcharge - late filing fee or oath	
1052	50	2052	25	Surcharge - late provisional filing fee or cover sheet	
1053	130	1053	130	Non-English specification	
1812	2,520	1812	2,520	For filing a request for reexamination	
1804	920*	1804	920*	Requesting publication of SIR prior to Examiner action	
1805	1,840*	1805	1,840*	Requesting publication of SIR after Examiner action	
1251	110	2251	55	Extension for reply within first month	
1252	420	2252	210	Extension for reply within second month	
1253	950	2253	475	Extension for reply within third month	
1254	1,480	2254	740	Extension for reply within fourth month	
1255	2,010	2255	1,005	Extension for reply within fifth month	
1401	330	2401	165	Notice of Appeal	
1402	330	2402	165	Filing a brief in support of an appeal	
1403	290	2403	145	Request for oral hearing	
1451	1,510	1451	1,510	Petition to institute a public use proceeding	
1452	110	2452	55	Petition to revive - unavoidable	
1453	1,330	2453	665	Petition to revive - unintentional	
1501	1,330	2501	665	Utility issue fee (or reissue)	
1502	480	2502	240	Design issue fee	
1503	640	2503	320	Plant issue fee	
1460	130	1460	130	Petitions to the Commissioner	
1807	50	1807	50	Processing fee under 37 CFR 1.17 (q)	
1808	180	1808	180	Submission of Information Disclosure Stmt	
8021	40	8021	40	Recording each patent assignment per property (times number of properties)	
1809	770	2809	385	Filing a submission after final rejection (37 CFR § 1.129(a))	
1810	770	2810	385	For each additional invention to be examined (37 CFR § 1.129(b))	
1801	770	2801	385	Request for Continued Examination (RCE)	
1802	900	1802	900	Request for expedited examination of a design application	

Other fee (specify) _____

*Reduced by Basic Filing Fee Paid

SUBTOTAL (3)

(\$ 0)

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type)	Registration No. (Attorney/Agent)	Telephone	Date
Reitseng Lin	42,804	609-734-6813	January 23, 2004
Signature			

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PV040017

A. Brief summary of the invention

This invention relates to a television receiver with one or more external audio inputs and at least one audio output for connection to an external audio amplifier whereby one particular audio input is connected to a particular audio output during the off and/or standby mode of the television receiver. The connection can be preset by the manufacturer and/or by the user.

B. Keywords: list keywords or combinations of keywords to guide patent and literature searches. Underline the most important keywords.

- selectable audio output
- audio during standby
- audio switch

C. Brief discussion of the problem solved by the invention.

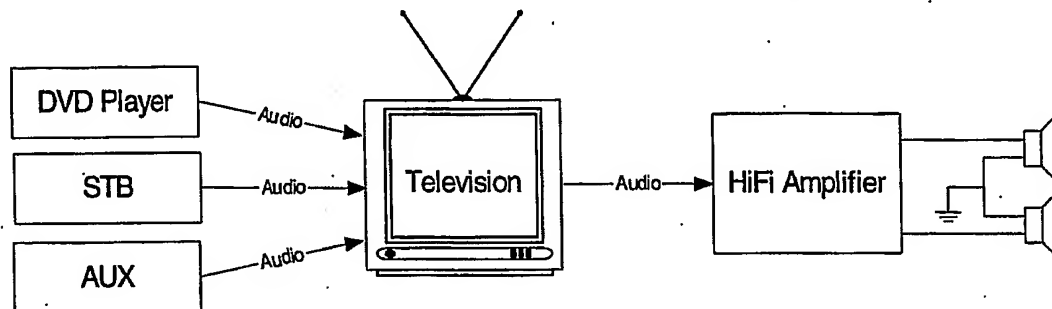


Fig. 1 Common combination of different devices in a home television system

Fig 1. shows a common configuration of different devices in a home television system (only the audio connections are displayed). The audio signal(s) of one or more additional devices are connected to the television receiver (scart - or cinch cable), the audio output of the receiver is connected to a home HiFi stereo device (audio amplifier).

Under certain circumstances it is desired to reproduce only audio signals (radio) or to use devices like DVD-Players as an audio player (audio CD, mp3 CD). In this case the display of video, e.g. as a background picture, is neither necessary nor desired. For audio reproduction with such a HiFi Stereo System, each device with audio functionality must be connected not only to the TV receiver, but to the audio amplifier as well. If this is not the case, the user has to switch on the television receiver, because the audio connection via the receiver is interrupted if the TV receiver is off or in the standby mode. This causes a need for extra connection cables and inputs to the amplifier. If a connection between the TV receiver and the audio amplifier is still desired still another cable and audio input are required.

D. Discussion of how you or others have implemented similar things in the past, including the manner in which others have attempted to solve the problem. Point out disadvantages and weaknesses in previous practice. Include literature references where available.

Up till now the problem described above is solved as follows.

- Each device, which is connected to an external amplifier, is connected with a separate cable to a separate audio input at the audio amplifier.
- Only the device used most frequently is connected to the amplifier.
- All devices are connected through the TV receiver with the audio amplifier, so the TV cannot be switched off or into standby mode even when the user requires only audio operation. A background picture is displayed on the TV screen without any need for it.

E. Description of the invention, including one or more practical embodiments of the invention in sufficient detail to allow one with ordinary skill in the art to practice the invention. Include schematic(s), flow chart(s) and/or figures to clarify operation of the invention. Point out important features and items you believe to be new. State advantages of the invention and sacrifices, if any, made to achieve these advantages. Describe any experiments conducted and the results of those experiments.

The invention offers a possibility to build a system as in Fig. 1 without the disadvantages described sub D.

One audio input

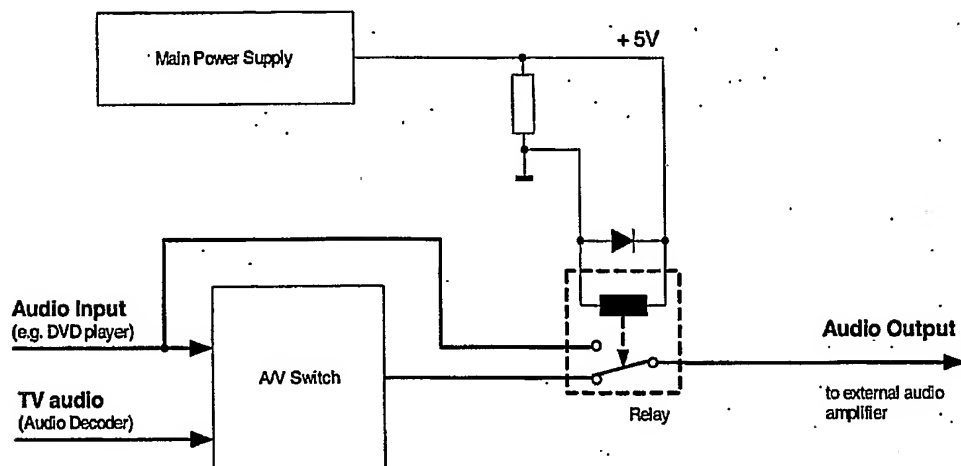


Fig. 2 Feature implemented with a relays (system is in power on mode)

The simplest method to implement the above described feature is shown in Fig. 2. A single audio source (e.g. a DVD player) is connected to the TV receiver. If the TV receiver is off the relay bypasses the internal A/V switch and connects the external audio input to the output of the receiver. Thus, an audio CD or mp3 CD can be played although the television receiver is off. If the receiver is switched on, its power supply activates the relay disconnecting the bypass enabling regular operation of the A/V switch.

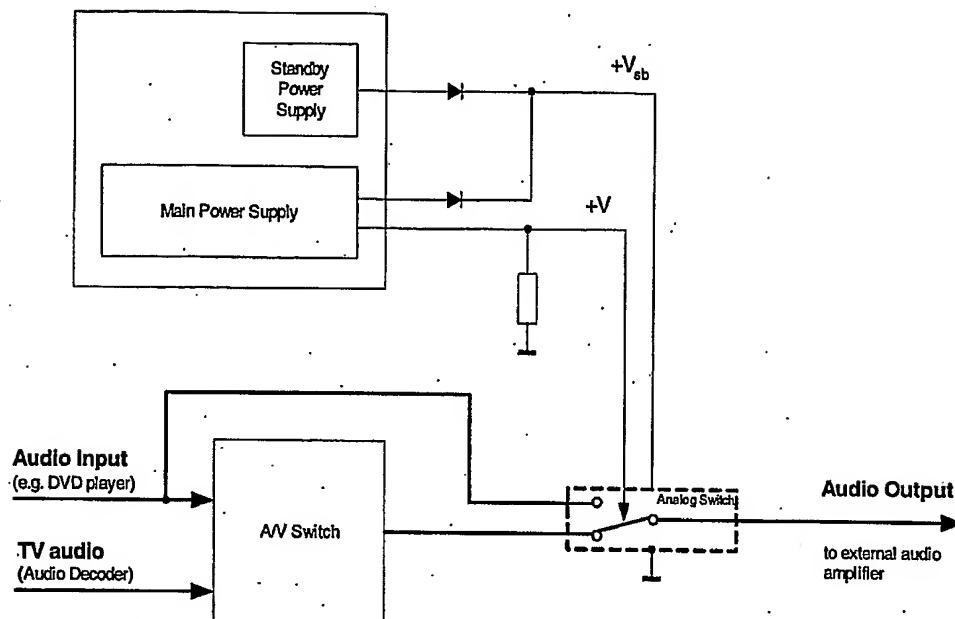


Fig. 3 Feature implemented with an analog switch (system is in power on mode)

Instead of a relay a solid-state switch can be used as shown in Fig. 3. However, such a switch needs an operating voltage. By using the output voltage of the standby power supply the proposed system still can be used, but only during standby operation.

Multiple audio inputs

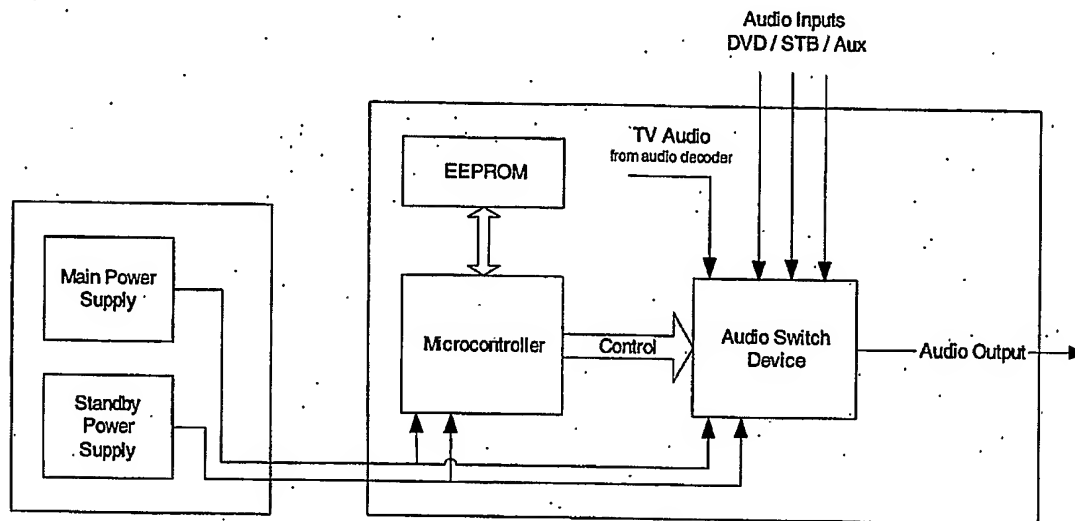


Fig. 4 Block diagram of system with more than one external audio inputs

Fig. 4 shows a block diagram of a system with several external audio inputs. In such a system two possibilities for implementation of the invention exist:

The manufacturer specifies a default audio input which connects to the output of the receiver during standby. The user cannot change this selection. This configuration can be realized with a relay as in Fig. 2 or with an analog switch as in Fig. 3.

To make the feature more flexible the possibility can be provided that the user can select the desired configuration himself with the remote control via an OSD menu.

After the user has made his selection the TV receiver, respectively the microcontroller, saves it in the, usually present, non volatile memory.

Before the receiver goes into standby, the microcontroller reads this selection in this memory and puts the switch control circuit into the desired status (see Fig. 5).

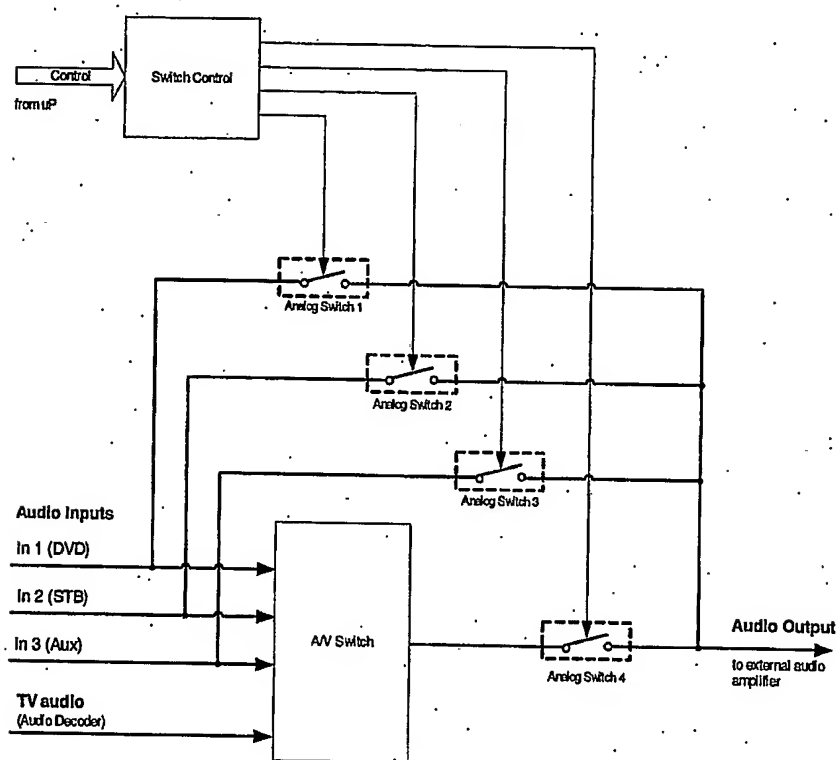


Fig. 5 Detailed diagram of the audio switch device

It is possible to control the switches with a separate key on the remote control or on the television receiver (e.g. cycling change of input source). Thus the user can change the audio source even during standby.